

2018 Current Fiscal Year Report: National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity

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1. Department or Agency

Department of Education

2. Fiscal Year

2018

3. Committee or Subcommittee

National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity

3b. GSA Committee No.

98

4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?

No

5. Current Charter

12/14/2015

6. Expected Renewal Date

7. Expected Term Date

8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?

No

8b. Specific Termination Authority

20 U.S.C. 1011c

8c. Actual Term Date

9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year

Continue

10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?

Not Applicable

10b. Legislation Pending?

Not Applicable

11. Establishment Authority Statutory (Congress Created)

12. Specific Establishment Authority

20 U.S.C. 1011c(a)

13. Effective Date

08/14/2008

14. Committee Type

Continuing

14c. Presidential?

No

15. Description of Committee Non Scientific Program Advisory Board

16a. Total Number of Reports

1

16b. Report Date Report Title

03/01/2018

Accreditation Policy Recommendations on Regulatory Reform

Number of Committee Reports Listed: 1

17a. Open 2 17b. Closed 0 17c. Partially Closed 0 Other Activities 0 17d. Total 2

Meetings and Dates

Purpose

NACIQI met to advise the Secretary of Education on the establishment and enforcement of criteria for recognition of accrediting agencies under Subpart 2 of Part H, Title IV, of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA), as well as the recognition of specific accrediting agencies or associations or a specific State approval agency. NACIQI also met to advise the Secretary on the eligibility and certification process for institutions of higher education under Title IV, of the HEA, including the relationship between accreditation of institutions of higher education and the certification and eligibility of such institutions, and state licensing responsibilities with respect to such institutions.

Start

End

02/07/2018 - 02/08/2018

NACIQI met to advise the Secretary of Education on the establishment and enforcement of criteria for recognition of accrediting agencies under Subpart 2 of Part H, Title IV, of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA), as well as the recognition of specific accrediting agencies or associations or a specific State approval agency. NACIQI also met to advise the Secretary on the eligibility and certification process for institutions of higher education under Title IV, of the HEA, including the relationship between accreditation of institutions of higher education and the certification and eligibility of such institutions, and state licensing responsibilities with respect to such institutions.

05/22/2018 - 05/24/2018

Number of Committee Meetings Listed: 2

	Current FY	Next FY
18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members	\$3,900.00	\$4,000.00
18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff	\$222,019.00	\$222,019.00
18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members	\$35,260.00	\$40,000.00
18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff	\$0.00	\$2,500.00
18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)	\$19,534.00	\$24,874.00
18d. Total	\$280,713.00	\$293,393.00
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)	1.34	1.34

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

The statute authorizes the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity (NACIQI) to assess the process of accreditation and the institutional eligibility and certification of institutions of higher education (as defined in Section 102 of Title I of the HEA). The Committee:(1) Advises the Secretary with respect to establishment and enforcement of the standards of accrediting agencies or associations under subpart 2 of Part H of Title IV, HEA;(2) Advises the Secretary with respect to the recognition of a specific accrediting agency or association;(3) Advises the Secretary with respect to the preparation and publication of the list of nationally recognized accrediting agencies and associations;(4) Advises the Secretary with respect to the eligibility and certification process for institutions of higher education under Title IV, HEA, together with recommendations for improvements in such process;(5) Advises the Secretary with respect to the relationship between—i. Accreditation of institutions of higher education and the certification and eligibility of such institutions; and ii. State licensing responsibilities with respect to such institutions; (6) Submits an annual report that covers the preceding year's activities to the Secretary, the authorizing committees, and the public not later than September 30 of each year, or not later than the last day of each fiscal year beginning in 2010; and(7) Carries out such other advisory functions relating to accreditation and institutional eligibility as the Secretary may prescribe. The Committee reviews agency applications for initial or continued recognition, and makes recommendations on recognition of accrediting agencies, degree authorizations for

Federal degree-granting institutions, as well as policy recommendations. At each meeting, the agencies seeking recognition, as well as interested third parties, are invited to make oral presentations. After consideration of each agency's written materials, any third-party written comments, and any oral testimony, the Committee discusses whether the agency meets the Secretary's criteria and votes on a recommendation to be forwarded to the senior Department official (SDO) after the meeting. After consideration of the Committee's recommendation, the SDO decides whether to grant recognition to an applicant accrediting agency, or State approval agency. The NACIQI's recommendations for Federal degree-granting institutions are forwarded directly to the Secretary. The Committee, informed by leaders from the higher education accreditation community, deliberate and provide accreditation policy recommendations to the Secretary of Education.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

The Higher Education Opportunity Act (HEOA), enacted on August 14, 2008, specified five different appointment sources for the 18 NACIQI members. The House of Representatives appoints six members. Three are recommended by the Speaker of the House and three by the House Minority Leader. The Senate also appoints six members. Three are appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and three by the Senate Minority Leader. The Secretary of Education appoints six members, including a student representative. The statute provides that NACIQI members should be knowledgeable about postsecondary education and training, and that their experience be representative of all sectors and types of institutions of higher education. Given the number of appointment sources and the statutory requirements concerning their qualifications, the 18 members provide a broad and balanced view of the needs of the postsecondary accrediting community and how it could be enhanced.

20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?

By law, the NACIQI meets at least twice a year to carry out its statutory mandates. Meetings are typically held at six month intervals to review selected agencies in accordance with the recognition review cycle. Meetings dedicated to policy discussions are convened more frequently as appropriate, in preparation for reauthorization of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended.

20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?

The advisory process, which involves public meetings and independent review and recommendation, aims toward a fair and impartial review of applicant accrediting agencies and other entities. While the staff conducts a paper review and provides a

recommendation on recognition to the SDO, the NACIQI meetings serve as the due process hearing for accrediting agencies that serve as gatekeepers to Federal programs, including Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended. All of the Committee members are from the non-Federal sector and are selected for their expertise in the higher education sector.

20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?

N/A - The meetings are open to the public. Meeting notices are published in the Federal Register.

21. Remarks

Two National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity (NACIQI) meetings were held in FY 18: February 2018 and May 2018.

Designated Federal Officer

Jennifer Hong Executive Director/DFO

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Boehme, Simon	12/12/2013	09/30/2019	(Student Member) Mitchell Scholar, Maynooth University, Kennedy Institute for Conflict Intervention	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Derby, Jill	10/01/2016	09/30/2022	Senior Consultant, Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Derlin, Roberta	12/12/2013	10/18/2019	Associate Provost Emeritus, New Mexico State University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Etchemendy, John	02/18/2014	09/30/2019	Provost Emeritus, Stanford University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
French, George	09/30/2014	09/30/2020	President, Miles College	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Jones, Brian	02/17/2017	09/30/2020	President, Strayer University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Keiser, Arthur	12/04/2014	09/30/2020	Chancellor, Keiser University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
LeBlanc, Paul	10/01/2016	09/30/2022	President, Southern New Hampshire University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Neal, Anne	10/01/2016	09/30/2022	Senior Fellow, American Council of Trustees and Alumni	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
O'Donnell, Richard	10/01/2016	09/30/2022	Founder and CEO, Skills Fund	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Phillips, Susan	12/12/2013	09/30/2019	Professor, University at Albany/SUNY	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Pressnell, Claude	02/17/2017	09/30/2022	President, Tennessee Independent Colleges and Universities Association	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Rothkopf, Arthur	12/04/2014	09/30/2020	President Emeritus, Lafayette College	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Sullivan Alioto, Kathleen	05/14/2015	09/30/2020	Consultant	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
VanAusdler, Steven	11/22/2016	09/30/2022	President Emeritus, Walla Walla Community College	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Wolff, Ralph	05/14/2014	09/30/2020	Independent Consultant	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

Wu, Frank	12/12/2013 09/30/2019	Distinguished Professor, University of California Hastings College of Law	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Zaragoza, Federico	12/12/2013 09/30/2019	Vice Chancellor for Economic and Workforce Development, Alamo Colleges	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 18

Narrative Description

Goal 1 of the U.S. Department of Education's Strategic Plan (2014-2018) is to Increase college access, affordability, quality, and completion by improving postsecondary education and lifelong learning opportunities for youths and adults. More specifically, STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 1.2: QUALITY is to Foster institutional value to ensure that postsecondary education credentials represent effective preparation for students to succeed in the workforce and participate in civic life. In addition, the Secretary of Education is required by statute to publish a list of accrediting agencies that are reliable authorities as to the quality of the training and education offered by their accredited institutions and programs. The NACIQI supports this important function by advising the Secretary on whether accrediting agencies seeking recognition by the Secretary meet the regulatory criteria for such recognition and by advising the Secretary on issues and making recommendations relative to accreditation that support the delivery of quality postsecondary education.

What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

Improvements to health or safety	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trust in government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Major policy changes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Advance in scientific research	<input type="checkbox"/>
Effective grant making	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Improved service delivery	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Increased customer satisfaction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Outcome Comments

NA

What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

None	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Unable to Determine	<input type="checkbox"/>

Under \$100,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$100,000 - \$500,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$500,001 - \$1,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Over \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cost Savings Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Cost Savings Comments

NA

What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?

403

Number of Recommendations Comments

This question was first posed in 2003 and the recommendations are aggregated from 2003 forward. Since that time, the NACIQI forwarded 403 recognition and degree approval recommendations to the senior Department official and/or Secretary, as appropriate (decision-maker).

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?

96%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

The Department's decision-makers have approved recommendations made since 2003. The five recommendations from the June 2008 NACIQI meeting were subsequently acted upon after the Committee was reconstituted. Of the seven recommendations not fully implemented, six decisions (three in 2007 and three in 2012) were partially implemented; one recommendation in 2012 was not implemented. All recommendations in 2013 and 2014 were implemented. In 2015, all except one recommendation was fully implemented. In 2016, all except one recommendation was fully implemented. In 2017, all except three recommendations were fully implemented. In 2018, all except four recommendations were fully implemented. Many of the NACIQI's policy recommendations require statutory change, therefore, they are not included in the figure above.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?

4%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

Since 2003, the Secretary has partially implemented fifteen of the NACIQI's recommendations: three in 2007, three in 2012, one in 2015, one in 2016, three in 2017, and four in 2018.

Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?

Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable ☐

Agency Feedback Comments

Subsequent to each NACIQI meeting, the Executive Director/ or Designated Federal Official of the NACIQI informs the Committee members of the decisions made from their recommendations of the previous meeting.

What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?

Checked if Applies

Reorganized Priorities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reallocated resources	<input type="checkbox"/>
Issued new regulation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Proposed legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Approved grants or other payments	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Action Comments

Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?

No

Grant Review Comments

NA

How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?

Checked if Applies

Contact DFO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Agency Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Online Committee Web Site
Online GSA FACA Web Site
Publications
Other



Access Comments

<https://sites.ed.gov/naciqi/>